

Appl. No. : 09/976,679
Filed : October 12, 2001

REMARKS

By way of summary, Applicants note that claims 1-11, 27 and 28 are pending and claims 12-26 and 29-31 have been canceled. By this Amendment, Applicants have also added new claim 32. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims at a later date.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 27 and 28 are allowable. Applicants further note that claims 3, 5, 6, 10 and 11 were previously withdrawn in response to a species election. Because generic claim 1 has now been allowed, Applicants believe that dependent claims 3, 5, 6, 10 and 11 should be reinstated and deemed allowable. Accordingly, Applicants believe that each of the pending claims (i.e., claims 1-11, 27 and 28) is now allowable.

NEW CLAIM 32

Applicants have added new dependent claim 32 to further recite an embodiment wherein the proximal hypotube, the coil and the tubular body are integrally formed. Claim 32 is dependent upon claim 2, which has been allowed. Furthermore, claim 32 recites an additional feature that is neither taught nor suggested by the cited references. One preferred embodiment having the features of new claim 32 is illustrated in FIGS. 20 and 21.

New claim 32 is readable on species b (balloon embodiment of FIG. 24) as defined in the species requirement mailed by the Examiner on May 20, 2003. In response to the species requirement, Applicants elected species b for prosecution on the merits. New claim 32 is also readable upon species 7 (FIGS. 20 and 21) as defined in the species requirement mailed by the Examiner on September 10, 2003. Applicants did not elect species 7. Rather, Applicants elected species 1 for prosecution on the merits. However, since the generic claim has now been allowed, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 32 is also allowable.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL IDS

Applicants found no indication that the Examiner has considered the references submitted in the Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, filed on February 3, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner provide an initialed copy of the Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in the next correspondence.

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CONCLUSION

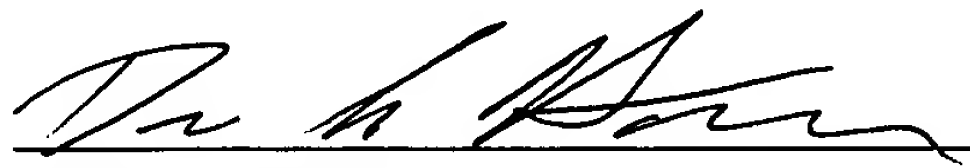
In light of the above remarks, Applicants present this application in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the attorney of record at the telephone number indicated below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 8/23/04

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AMEND

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